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Man Charged with Murder in LAPD Fatal Crash

A Harbor City man was charged today with murder and other charges stemming from Saturday's fatal crash that killed LAPD Officer Roberto Sanchez and seriously injured his partner, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Mynor Enrique Varela (dob 7/10/93) is scheduled to be arraigned today after 1:30 p.m. at the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Long Beach Branch in Department 1.

Varela was charged in case NA099063 with one count of murder, one count of vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence, two counts of assault on a peace officer and one count of leaving the scene of an accident. The complaint alleges a special circumstance of second-degree murder of a peace officer. Varela is currently being held without bail.

The case is being prosecuted by the Crimes Against Peace Officers Section.

Varela allegedly was driving an SUV that slammed into an LAPD cruiser while it was attempting to take enforcement action against another vehicle. The crash occurred at 3:40 a.m. near the intersection of Senator Avenue and Anaheim Street.

The Los Angeles Police Department's Robbery-Homicide Division is investigating the case.

If convicted, Varela faces up to life without the possibility of parole in state prison.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.